

3523 P 004



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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Wilhelm SCHWAEBLE

Serial No. 09/503,421

Filed February 14, 2000

)
)
) Group Art Unit _____
)
)
) **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE**
) **STATEMENT PURSUANT**
) **TO 37 CFR §§1.97 AND 1.98**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicant submits herewith Form PTO-1449, "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT," and a copy of each reference listed therein. These references were cited in the International Search Report for the corresponding PCT application PCT/GB98/02430. A copy of the Search Report is also included.

This Statement is being filed prior to the first Office Action and, therefore, no fee is required.

Applicant is submitting this art because he recognizes his duty to disclose pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. However, submission of this art and Statement is not an admission that any item identified contains matter that anticipates the invention or that renders the invention obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Further, Applicant believes that none of the art submitted herewith, alone or in proper combination, discloses, teaches or suggests the invention claimed by Applicant.

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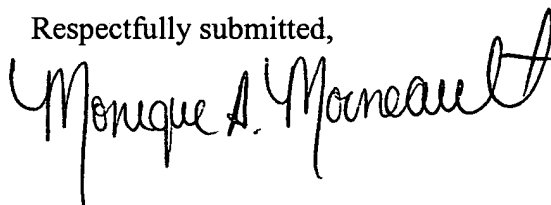
The citation of a reference is also without admission that the reference is sufficient to teach one of ordinary skill in the art how to make or use the subject matter thereof or that the reference is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b).

Moreover, submission of these references is without admission that any of the references constitute statutory prior art or has an effective date prior to Applicant's effective date of invention.

Applicant specifically reserves all rights of privilege and confidence with respect to this matter. A submission of this document is not to be construed as a waiver of those rights. In addition, the filing of this Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search had been made by Applicant or Applicant's attorneys.

Please charge any additional fees associated with this Communication to our Deposit Account No. 23-0280.

Respectfully submitted,



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